

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
)
 Brian K. Dieckgraefe)
)
 Serial No.)
)
 Filed: December 19, 2000) Atty. Dkt. No. 04255.00002

For: GENE MARKERS FOR CHRONIC MUCOSAL INJURY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments before examining the continuation application which is filed concurrently herewith.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, between lines 2 and 3 insert:

--This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/146,969, filed September 4, 1998,
pending.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-3 and 13.

REMARKS

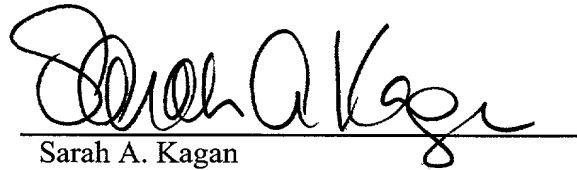
The present application is directed to claims 4-12 and 14-76.

It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 18, 2000

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah A. Kagan", written over a horizontal line.

Sarah A. Kagan

Registration No. 32,141

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